

Supervisor Romaine Joins Suffolk County Town Supervisors in Support of Assemblyman Murray's Strict Sexual Predator Legislation

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Farmingville, NY – On November 2, Supervisor Ed Romaine and all nine other members of the Suffolk County Supervisors Association sent a letter to Governor Andrew M. Cuomo in support of Assemblyman Dean Murray's stricter sexual predator legislation. State Senate Majority Leader John Flanagan and Speaker of the Assembly Carl Heastie also received a copy of the letter.

According to the letter, the new legislation (A8503A/S6066A) "authorizes counties across New York State to adopt, by local law or resolution, sex offender residency restrictions to prevent Level 3 offenders, offenders convicted of sexually violent offenses, predicate offenders, sexual predators and registrants who have committed offenses against minors, from residing too close to public, private, and charter schools." The Supervisors support the maximum residency restriction to be codified at no more than 1000' since the objective is to reduce the potential risk of re-offense by preventing daily exposure to potential victim populations. They also support a provision requiring offenders registering as "homeless" to report their location description daily to the jurisdiction in which they reside. This measure prevents circumventing of reporting requirements. See the attached letter for more details about Assemblyman Murray's new legislation.

Supervisor Romaine said, "There is no better champion to help keep our families safe than Assemblyman Murray, who has been at the forefront of this issue. We need to place more authority on the local level to control the sexual predator population and this law does that. I applaud the Assemblyman and commend my fellow Town Supervisors for joining me and Parents for Megan's Law in support of this new legislation."

On February 17, 2015 the New York State Court of Appeals struck down County residency restriction laws, leaving New York's vulnerable populations at risk of having dangerous sexual predators taking up residences right across the street from locations where it is known that children congregate, such as elementary schools.

Division of Public Information * Office of the Supervisor

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